

## 9 FAM Appendix C, NIGERIA

(TL:VISA-452; 08-12-2002)

### RECIPROCITY

(TL:VISA-452; 08-12-2002)

Visa	Fee	No. Applications	Validity
A-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
A-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
A-3 [1]	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
B-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
B-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
B-1/B-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
C-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
C-1/D	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
C-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
C-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
D	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
E-1 [2]	NO TREATY	N/A	N/A
E-2 [2]	NO TREATY	N/A	N/A
F-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
F-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	24MONTHS
G-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
G-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
G-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
G-4	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
G-5 [1]	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
H-1B	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS [3]
H-1C	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS [3]
H-2A	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS [3]
H-2B	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS [3]
H-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS [3]
H-4	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS [3]
I	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
J-1 [4]	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
J-2 [4]	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
K-1	NONE	ONE	6 MONTHS
K-2	NONE	ONE	6 MONTHS
K-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
K-4	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
L-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS [3]
L-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS [3]
M-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
M-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
N-8	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
N-9	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS

NATO 1-7	N/A	N/A	N/A
O-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS [3]
O-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS [3]
O-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS [3]
P-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS [3]
P-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS [3]
P-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS [3]
P-4	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS [3]
Q-1 [6]	NONE	MULTIPLE	15 MONTHS [3]
R-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
R-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
S-5 [7]	NONE	ONE	1 MONTH
S-6 [7]	NONE	ONE	1 MONTH
S-7 [7]	NONE	ONE	1 MONTH
T-1 [9]	N/A	N/A	N/A
T-2	NONE	ONE	6 MONTHS
T-3	NONE	ONE	MONTHS
T-4	NONE	ONE	6 MONTHS
TD [5]	N/A	N/A	N/A
V-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS
V-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS [8]
V-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS [8]

## **SPECIAL CLEARANCE AND ISSUANCE PROCEDURES**

*(TL:VISA-264; 04-18-2001)*

None.

## **DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS**

### **Police Record**

*(TL:VISA-264; 04-18-2001)*

Available, including for those living abroad. The Nigerian police force no longer accepts requests made through the American Embassy. Requests should be addressed to The Deputy Inspector General, Criminal Investigation Department, Nigerian Police Force, Alagbon Close, Ikoyi, Lagos, Nigeria. Fee should be addressed in the form of an international bank draft payable to the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Fingerprint Section, Nigerian Police Force.

The applicant's letter must state full name, place and date of birth, nationality, passport number, date and place of issuance (for current passport or passport used during applicant's stay in Nigeria), exact periods of residence in Nigeria, and addresses where applicant resided. Each applicant 16 years of age and over must enclose a copy of the first three data pages of his/her passport as well as the pages containing Nigerian visas, entry and departure stamps and a complete set of fingerprints taken by the police in the district where the applicant resides.

### **Prison Record**

*(TL:VISA-157; 11-22-1996)*

Unavailable. The police record gives all prison sentences, although reliability is questionable.

### **Military Record**

*(TL:VISA-157; 11-22-1996)*

Available. There is no compulsory military service in Nigeria. If military service has been performed, a certificate to that effect can be obtained from an adjutant or company commander of the unit concerned except for veterans of World War II. Veterans of World War II should have a military discharge book.

### **Birth and Death Certificates**

*(TL:VISA-157; 11-22-1996)*

Generally available, particularly for events occurring after 1970. Registration of births and deaths is compulsory in Lagos. The National Population Commission issues birth certificates for births after 1992.

For Lagos records, certified copies of records for dates ending with 1979 can be obtained at the Lagos State Ministry of Health, Old Secretariat, Ikeja, Lagos. For records after 1979, contact the local government that issued the original certificate directly. Most births and deaths outside of Lagos are also registered at the time of the event. Applicants can obtain certified true copies of certificates directly from the local government. Alternatively, acceptable identity/parentage documents are infant baptismal certificates and hospital or maternity clinic records of birth. Home births are rare in Nigeria and medical records are available in most cases. Affidavits may be acceptable as substitutes for documents for those born outside Lagos prior to 1960 or born in the eastern part of Nigeria in the 1960s at the time of the Biafran War, when presented in combination with convincing secondary evidence of relationship.

## Marriage Certificate

(TL:VISA-157; 11-22-1996)

Available from local government bodies if the couple performed civil marriage at the Marriage Registry. Traditional marriages may also be recorded with the local government and a certificate of marriage issued. Places of worship that are registered with the Nigerian Government may also issue marriage certificates for ceremonies performed there. It is obligatory that every registrar and religious minister furnish such documents to the Lagos Marriage Registry, but some fail to do so. Records are generally available through the local government where the marriage took place. The Marriage Registry in Lagos has marriage records dating back to 1802. They are filed by year and place of marriage and can be obtained by writing to Marriage Registry, 19 Kingsway Road, Ikoyi, Lagos. Since both parties to the marriage technically must be physically present at the same location with witnesses to sign certain marriage documents, proxy marriages have ceased to be valid but still occur.

## Divorce Certificate

(TL:VISA-157; 11-22-1996)

Civil Divorce: Only high courts have jurisdiction over civil divorces in any state in Nigeria except Imo state, where the Magistrate's Court has jurisdiction. The proper documentation for the dissolution of a civil marriage is a "Decree Absolute" issued by the high court granting the divorce. Three other divorce documents, the "Enrolment of Order", the "Decree Nisi" and the "Certificate of Decree Nisi Having Become Absolute" mark steps in the divorce process but do not indicate final divorce.

Customary Divorce: Marriage under native law and custom can only be dissolved by the customary court having jurisdiction over the area where the marriage took place. The proper documentation for customary divorce is a certificate of divorce rendered by a customary court, which will contain a "true and certified copy of the proceedings". There are two exceptions. Between 1971 and 1976, Anambra and Imo states, then known as "East Central State", permitted Chief Magistrate's Courts there to grant customary divorces. As of 1976, Imo state is the only state where Chief Magistrate's Courts can issue customary divorce decrees.

Islamic Divorce: Islamic courts are the only courts having jurisdiction in dissolution of Islamic marriages.

Divorce by traditional rulers, affidavits and statutory declarations of divorce, even when authentic, have no standing under Nigerian law.

## Adoption Certificate

(TL:VISA-157; 11-22-1996)

Available. Non-Nigerians may not adopt children in Nigeria. True adoptions in Nigeria are very rare. Adoption in Nigeria must be initiated from the Ministry of Social Services, not directly with the court by the adoptive parents. Any adoption not done under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Services is not valid. Nigerians who adopted children under the Eastern Adoption Law of 1965 should apply directly to the court which granted the adoption in order to obtain certificates.

**NOTE:** Documents for the former Cameroonian Trust Territories are not available in Nigeria and should be sought through the Cameroonian Government.

## Educational Credentials

(TL:VISA-264; 04-18-2001)

Those who have successfully completed high school must take the West African Examination Council (WAEC) examinations to receive their diplomas or enter a university. The examinations are scored on a scale of 1 to 9, with 1 being the best and 9 the worst. To enter a university, the applicant must have received credit (a score of 1-6) in five subjects. For diploma programs, he/she must have received 3 or 4 credits. Scores of 7 or 8 are only ordinary passes and give no credit. A score of P8 or F9 indicates failing. There is a national WAEC office in Lagos where all results can be checked to verify educational level.

**NOTE:** Since fraudulent documents can be easily obtained in Nigeria, the consular officer may wish to consider referring suspect documents to the Anti-Fraud Unit, U.S. Embassy Lagos, for investigation.

## VISA ISSUING POST

(TL:VISA-157; 11-22-1996)

Lagos (E)                      All Categories

## GEOGRAPHIC AREAS SERVICED

(TL:VISA-157; 11-22-1996)

All of Nigeria.